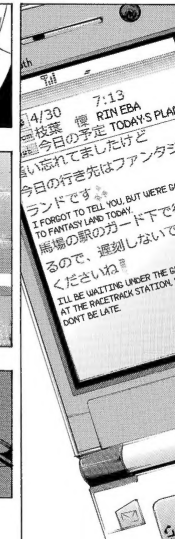
#125: SHALL WE GO ON A DATE?
A town where you live

旭湯

SLAM

Good grief...
I took on her challenge without thinking much of it.
but this sucks.
CLICK
CLICK

CREAK


4/30 7:13
RIN EBA
TODAY'S PLANS
I FORGOT TO TELL YOU BUT WE'RE GOING TO FANTASY LAND TODAY.
I'LL BE WAITING UNDER THE GUARD AT THE RACETRACK STATION, SO DON'T BE LATE.

Huh.. Haruto.
Oh!
Good morning. Are you going to practice this morning?
Yeah..
What about you? What are you doing up so early?
I'm glad I ran into you.
I was just on my way to tell you.
Oh?
I'm going to Fantasy Land with Rin today.
I thought I would let you know.
Um.
Is this some kind of a date?
Uh.. no..

Oh... Right.
I guess it is.
Broadly speaking, that is...

...Look here.

N-No!! It's not like that...
There's a reason for this!!
It's really not like that...

Do you think I'll let you get away with anything as long as you're honest?
If you don't tone it down, I'll start getting mad.
Wha?!

...

No...
Sorry. Of course you'd get mad...
If it's going to make you worry, I'll turn her down.
It's Fine.
Go ahead. You said you would, right?
What... But...
Y-Yeah...
Sorry...
Rin-chan's a really good girl.
I don't think I have to worry about her.
A good girl, huh...

Oh... since you're going, buy me a strap for my phone!

I heard Fantasy Land has some limited edition ones!

Huh? Sure, I guess.

All right!

Get me a cat, okay? One wearing a striped shirt!!

Ha ha, got it.

I'll buy one.

Even I could do that easily.

I'll give you far more fun than you have with Asuka-san.

She's always been a difficult girl...
...Good grief.

ぶうり

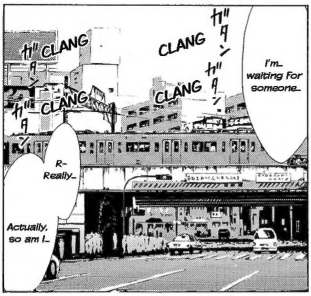
KIRIN
She probably just wanted to go to the amusement park.

....

高田馬場
Takanobaba Station
She should've just said so...

But she's pretty late.
You can't be late when you invite someone out.
What is she thinking...

Wha...
Eba?!


CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
I'm... waiting for someone...
R-Really...
Actually, so am I...

Huh?! Haruto-kun.
What are you doing here?!
U-Um.
I could ask you the same thing!!

What a coincidence. We're waiting for someone at the same time in the same place.
You're right... This kind of thing doesn't happen often.

Yeah.
Me, too...

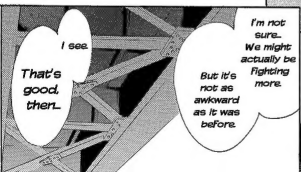
Are you going somewhere?
After this...
Well, yeah...
Are you going somewhere, Eba?
BE
COFFEE

This isn't good...
Things'll turn awkward if Rin-chan shows up now...

?!
A-About what?!
Oh... By the way, I heard from Rin.

Are you two getting along now?
Hm?
Huh...?
Oh... It was no problem...

She said you showed her around campus yesterday.


I see.
That's good, then...
I'm not sure... We might actually be fighting more.
But it's not as awkward as it was before.

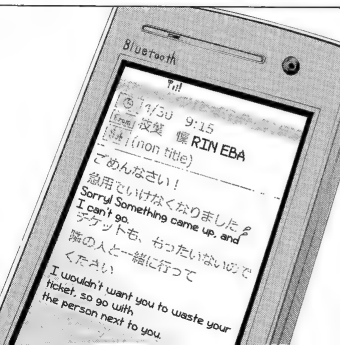
Sorry she bothered you when you're already so busy.

It's a date.
She's so late.

But that girl hasn't changed...

プルルル…
プルルル
Oh!

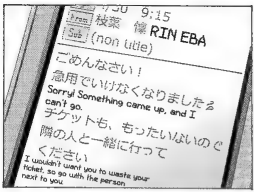
Mine, too...
BZZZ
プルルル
BZZZ


Bluetooth
RIN EBA
ごめんなさい！
急用でいけなくなりました
Sorry! Something came up, and I can't go.
チケットも、おったいないので
隣の人と一緒に行って
くださいね
I wouldn't want you to waste your ticket, so go with the person next to you.

What?
The person next to me...

...!!
Why are you...
STARE

Hey, Haruto-kun...
Are you waiting for Rin?
Huh?!
How did you...


9:15
From 枝菜 幡 RIN EBA
Sub (non title)
ごめんなさい！
急用でいけなくなりました。
Sorry! Something came up, and I can't go.
チケットも、もったいないので
隣の人と一緒に行って
ください。
I wouldn't want you to waste your ticket, so go with the person next to you.

Well, I am, too...
See?
She told me to wait for her at the station...

That's the same text she sent me...
I knew it...

Huh?

So_

What to do_

Good grief_ She tricked both of us.

She must have meant to do this all along.

CLAP

Oh, man. This was the first time she's invited me anywhere. I was so happy about it.

What do you mean_?

...

Oh_ Right.

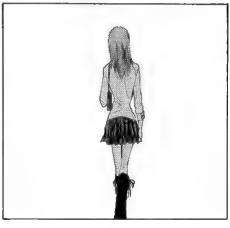
You're right. You have a girlFriend.

Well_ The two of us can't go together_

Well_ Yeah

So_ Um_

...Let's go home.
Y...
Yeah.
...Later.
Yeah. See you later.
I'll give Rin an earful...
...For this non-sense.
Yeah. thanks.



What?

Someone asked me to buy a Fantasy Land limited edition strap.

I... I see

...

Oh!

That's right!

Sorry.
Could you go with me after all?
We can leave right after I get it...
...Huh?
But...
No...
...
Ah..! You don't have to if it's too much trouble!!
I just thought it'd be a waste of the tickets...
It's okay...
There's an event I want to see, too.
I've been wanting to come for a while.
Oh...
I see...
Yeah.
So...
In that case... Um, it worked out.
Yeah.

Let's go check it out for a bit...
...Well...
西武新宿線
Seibu-Shinjuku Line
東西線
Tozai Line
...Yeah...
JR線きっぷうりば
JR Line Tickets
You're right...
Just for a little bit...

...Yeah.

You're right...

Just for a little bit...

...Well...

Let's go check it out for a bit...

That's how it goes.

Enjoy your date, you two.

Yeah.

You're right.

Just for a little bit.

Well.

Let's go check it out for a bit.

That's how it goes.

Enjoy your date, you two.

A town where you live

#126 THE GREATEST SMILE

It's fine. There's something I want to see, too.
Sorry for making you come with me.
Thank you!
How are we on time?
Where's the event?
Let's see...
It's a parade, so we can wait by the main path.
Huh?
You know, you can go home now.
I'll watch it myself.
Ah...
I don't mind. Come on, let's go together.
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
Okay.

ROAR
THIS IS AMAZING!! IT'S BEAUTIFUL!!

ROAR

ROAR

Eba, have you been here before?

You seem to know a lot about it.

Yeah! I came with my family when I was in kinder-garten.

I-it's amazing...

I've never seen anything like this.

I know, right?!

Isn't it ama-zing?!

Everyone laughed at me when I said I'd be the princess of the parade some-day!
Ha ha, I see.
Look, that's her!
Can you see the princess riding in the tomato carriage?
What?
SNICKER
It's a tomato tiara! It's cute!!
What is that?
She's got something weird on her head.
ROAR
I'm surprised someone who can't even eat zomatoes wants to be the tomato princess.
It's hilarious.
I-I can eat them now!
You could say I love them!!

Really? I'll make you tomato salad, then.
You'd better eat all of it.
She shook my hand!!
Princess Tomato is so cute!
Listen to me!!

He's so cute!
He saves the princess when she gets kidnapped by the witch.
He's actually a prince who's been trans-formed!!
Ah! Look, look!!
The pirate cats are here!
H-hey, stop that. You'll stretch my clothes!

And that scary-looking rabbit is...

ROAR

F-Fuka don't pull his whiskers!

Mama!! It's Goro-chan!!

Parades are pretty amazing in person.

Stop that!!

I'll have Papa scold you!

Aren't they?

I'm glad I came. I had so much fun!

He's so cute. His paws are so soft!

SQUISH

SQUISH

O-Okay.

It's the pirate cat!

Let's go!!

Hey, tone it down.
You're bothering the prince inside.
Hey..
Don't be so weird!!
Haruto-kun, come on!
Look over here, you two!
You two won't fit in the frame. Could you squeeze together?
Get a souvenir picture For free!
Yeah.
Magic Shop
..In that case.
W-We're not..
Come on! You don't want to waste any time.
Oh..

What...
GRAB
Ready when you are, cat.
Say "cheese"!
Whoa!
YANK
Ah...
Stop! I can see the prince!!
PULL
What do you think you're doing, cat?!
SNAP

...Huh?

Here's your photo.
Have fun!

Back to work!!
Hey, wait!!
My eyes are half-closed!!

Don't make me laugh so much!!
Ha ha ha!
My eyes are half-closed! I look so tired!!
You still look fine!

We're both making such silly faces!

...Yeah.
you did make this face!!
I kind of looked forward to seeing it!!

My face looks awful.
This must be what I looked like when you would feed me tomatoes.
H u h ?

H u h ?
Well... Here.
Give me your picture.

What are you talking about? You have your own picture.
That's not what I meant.

This won't make such a bad memory, after all.
Yeah.
It won't be.

This picture...
You can't take it home with you, can you?
...Ah.
Yeah.

...You're right.
Let's go home.
We got what we came for.
Right?

Yeah...

HELLO...
How was it, Haruto-san?
Wasn't it so fun you forgot all about Asuka-chan. Just like I said it would be?
...
DOES THIS MEAN I'M THE WINNER?
...Actually, I was disappointed.
HUH?
ABOUT WHAT?
I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO YOU ENTERTAINING ME...
Huh?
...BUT YOU SENT SOMEONE ELSE.

Wh-What are you talking about? You're being so difficult!
You know, it's not cute when you act like that!
Well... In any case, your attempt was invalid.
Later.
WAIT, HARUTO-SAN...
CLICK
Okay, then...
Let's go home.

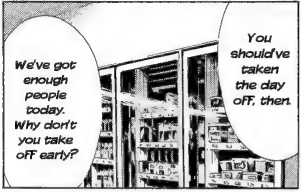
#127: TWO STRAPS

Destiny
ZAKINAMA
Gourmet Open
ORIGINAL PIZZA
オリジナルプレット
Thank you for your business.

No!
I'm fine!
What's wrong, Kirishima!? Are you not feeling well?

I feel so listless...
Have I always been this weak...?

I was at Fantasy Land earlier, and I'm a little tired... but I'm fine!
I'll do a good job!


We've got enough people today. Why don't you take off early?
You should've taken the day off, then.
N-No, it wasn't like that...
Oh, was it a date?

...
No! I'm fine.
Sorry for making you worry.
Ha ha, you sure?
Well, don't work too hard, then.

I'm working so that I can go on a trip with Asuka.
I can't go out with Eba and then skip work...
Fantasy Land

Excuse me.
SWISH
QUO
Ah...
Yes!

Going to work after a date must be difficult.
...Ah.
Really, that's enough.
If you do something like that again, I won't forgive you.
Okay... Sorry...
But you had fun, right?
You finally got to go on a date with my sister again.
I-I told you, it wasn't a date!
I just...
"Asuka asked me to buy a strap for her..."
...right?

My sister told me_

You come up with some unbelievable excuses, don't you?

You obviously just wanted to go on a date with your ex.

What_

I would've gone even if Akari or Kanzaki had been waiting there!!

Th-That's not true!!

N-No, I'm not!!

You're always staring at my chest when you're with me

You really aren't faithful are you Haruto-san?

Out of context, that makes you sound unfaithful

WAVE WAVE ちょい ちょい

Oh, right_

Just between you and me_

Wh_ What is it_

_Ah

I'm not wearing a bra.
SPURT
See...
LTUG
...?!
Wh... What are you...
You can look if you want, Haruto-san...

Th... That's not true!!
JERK
Your body's honest, I see.
You're so gross.
Your eyes moved really quickly just now!

Okay, okay.
Your reactions are always so boring.
TV station
Go home already!! I need to work!!

You're the worst.
You're actually giving a strap you bought with your ex to your girlfriend with a straight face, right?
...But you really are unfaithful, Haruto-san.
Let's not talk about that any...

Well, don't worry.
I won't do anything lame like tell on you to Asuka-san.
CREAK
H..Hey!
Good night.
...
But you had fun, right?
Fantasy Land
You finally got to go on a date with my sister again.
That's not why I went...

7:00.

GRRR

...Ah.

Kirishima, you can take your break now.

What?! H-Hey, Kirishima!

DASH

Sorry, boss!!

I'm really tired, so I'm going home!!

You have all that energy-

But hold on.

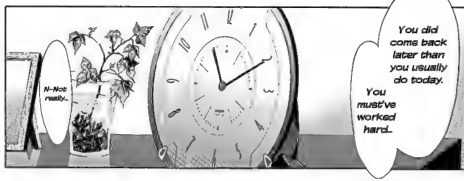
Good work today!!

温泉

...
What's going on, Haruto?

I was busy at work today...
PANT
I... I see...

You're a mess...


You did come back later than you usually do today.
You must've worked hard...
N-Not really...

Um...
Oh...
Ah...

Ah... Anyway, how was your day?
Did you have fun?
Ah, Today?
At Fantasy Land.

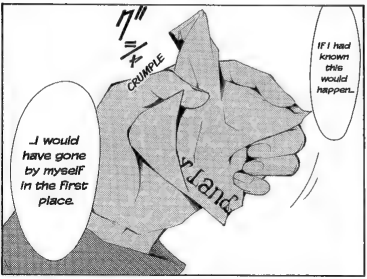
What?
Here...

...Ah!
It's the striped cat!

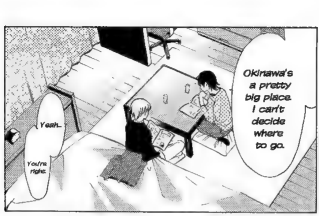
Oh... Right. I want to talk to you about our trip.
Come in. We should make a proper decision soon.
You're right.

Well... Yeah...
Thanks! You remembered!

I'm glad I made it just before they closed.
...


CRUMPLE
If I had known this would happen...
...I would have gone by myself in the first place.

RUSTLE


Okinawa's a pretty big place. I can't decide where to go.
Yeah...
You're right.

We can't go anywhere too expensive...
Hmmm...
Maybe it's be better to go with a tour.
What do you think, Haruto...

Hey, how does this sound?
"Okinawa Playing on the Beach Gourmet Tour!"
It's pretty cheap for four days and three nights!

...
Yeah.

Hm...

Are you even listening!?
You haven't been giving me any proper responses...

There's a proper order to these things!!
You can't just suddenly- What?!
No!!
What are you doing!?
Y-You idiot!!
ズルッ
ズルルル

Huh...
ゴロ
ROLL
Snore...
NZNZ
NZNZ
Man!
You should have said you were tired!!
...
カアア!
BLUSH
...He's sleeping.
POKE
POKE

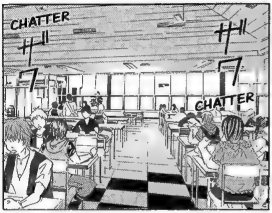
PLOP
GRAB
Your jacket's going to get wrinkled.
Huh..?
This fell out...
Is it trash..?

Huh... It's the same as the strap he gave me.
Why did he get two...
SNORE
SNORE
...
SLIP
I see...

You do some cute things sometimes...
...like secretly buying matching straps.

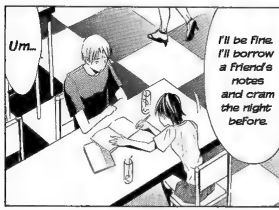
#128: THE NOTEBOOK

CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP


CHATTER
CHATTER

He said this would be on the beat.
Really?! Where?!

It gets pretty noisy around this time of year.
Are you going to be okay?



NOTEBOOK: OKINAWA AUGUST 9TH

What are you going to do if you fail a class?
You should start studying a little at a time, starting today.
Oh, shut up.
It's not a big deal if I drop a couple of credits.
I can always get them back in my second and third years.
Yeah, but...!
But what?!
People who talk like that make the same mistakes their second and third years!
Besides, why are you borrowing a friend's notes?!
It only turned out that way because you haven't been going to class!
...

If you drop even a single credit this time, we're not going on a trip!

Study like you mean it!

I've got a lot on my plate!

Like what?

A-- A lot of things--

CLATTER

Don't make excuses!

...

Ah--

Haru-to!

What is she thinking?
Now that I think of it, she was like that before our high school exams, too...
STEP
I want to go on our trip...
...but I need to be firm for her sake!
Haruto-kun...
It's so hot today. Do you want some juice?

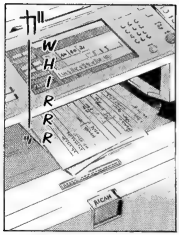
No...
I'm fine...
Don't be like that. Drink up. You like orange juice, right?
GONK
Oh, are your shoulders stiff? I'll give you a massage!
...
...
Just so you know, I won't lend you my notes.
It's your own faults for skipping so much class.
Please, Haruto! I'll never ask you for anything again! You're taking administration and accounting, right?
Kiyomi-chan and Nanami-chan are in different classes, so you're the only one who can help us!!
Come on! We'll let you squeeze Akari's boobs—
No, thank you!!

I've been telling you the same thing forever!
I can't believe you're still acting like this in college!
I hate it when people are so careless!
If you keep slacking off, you're the ones who will be in trouble!
Kirishima-kun.
カツン
CLICK
The exams are coming up-
Have you been taking notes for me?
-Ah.
Amaya...

SWISH
Well...?
!!
I hope you'll do it again next term.
For both our sakes.
CLATTER
Wah!! I did, look!!
That's a good boy.
I knew you could do it.
I... I don't know what do about her...
She should take her own notes.
TENSE
Hey.

What was that about?!
GRAB
...Huh?
I don't know what she did to you in that love hotel.
but you're acting pathetic! You're so gross.
SLAP

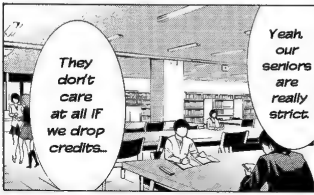
...Um.
Well...
Nothing happened at the love hotel...


WHIRRR

CHIRP
CHIRP
In any case, there's a reason for this...
I don't care about that. Give me your notes.
Give me back my juice.
That made me really thirsty.
...Fine.
...Fine.
CHIRP
CHIRP

Your hand-writing is as terrible as ever.
Don't I tell you to write neater every year?
Yes...
I forgot...
RIFFLE RIFFLE
Hey, Haruto.
WHIRRR
Ah...
what's this "Okinawa August 9th" about? Does this have something to do with the exams?
- erase
No... I'm going on a trip with Asuka...
What?
Don't write stupid things in your notes.
No! I didn't write it...
I'll add some-thing, then.
"Get some with Asuka this day!"
Hey, don't write that!!
Shut up!!
- copy
Um, excuse me.
Are those your notes for the exams?
Uh... Yeah...
Um...
Do you think we could copy them?
Sure, I guess...

That's great. We're saved!
Thank you so much!
We can't make it to most of our classes because we're in athletic clubs...


Yeah, our seniors are really strict.
They don't care at all if we drop credits...

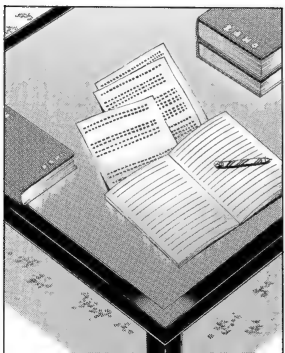
Huh... Really?

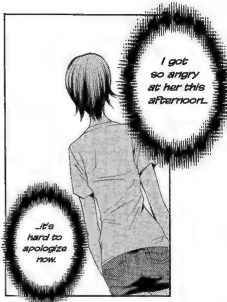
I feel especially bad for girls on the softball team.
Their hierarchy is especially nasty.
Oh, I heard about that. A few girls always have to spend an extra year in school.
Those poor things!

SIGN: ASUKA MISHIMA

Ah... Haruto.
You're back from work.
MEGUL
Huh... You don't usually wear glasses.
I had something to do.
Come on in.

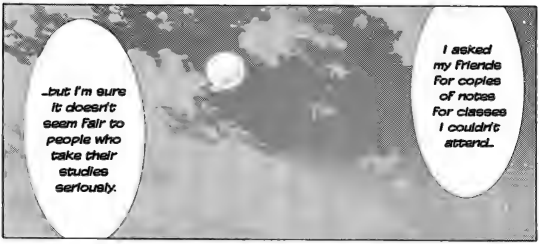
...
Okay...




I got so angry at her this afternoon...
...It's hard to apologize now.

You were so angry...
Well...

Were you studying?
Huh?


...but I'm sure it doesn't seem fair to people who take their studies seriously.
I asked my friends for copies of notes for classes I couldn't attend...

So... um...
I'll attend as many classes as I can, and study hard!!
But I'm going to try really hard, starting next term!!

No... I don't think it's...
un-fair...

...

What? That's not true...
Sorry.
I was a little harsh...
Y-Yeah.

...okay...?
Promise we'll go on our trip together...

Yeah. I want to go on our trip, too.
Really?!
You're going to help me?!
Okay..! I'll help you study.
Ask me if you don't understand anything.

..Huh?
In that case, this section..

Your notes must have been mixed in there.
I heard they gathered whatever notes they could get their hands on.

Are these my notes?
Huh?
Really?

That's great. You're Famous, Haruto.
I'm sure they've been spread all around school.
RIFFLE
#10
#1

They were making tons of copies.
Ah, it must've been those girls this afternoon.

沖縄 8月9日

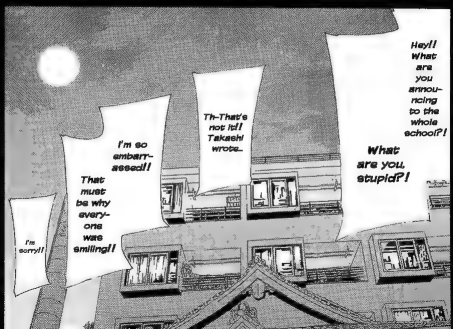
OKINAWA AUGUST 9TH

この日に明日香と一発キメる!

GET SOME WITH ASUKA THIS DAY!

桐島青太

HARUTO KIRISHIMA


Hey!! What are you announcing to the whole school?!
What are you, stupid?!
Th-That's not it!! Takashi wrote...
I'm so embarrassed!!
That must be why everyone was smiling!!
I'm sorry!!

#129: SUMMER PLANS

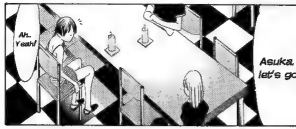
I'm glad our exams are over.
You managed not to drop any of your credits, too.
Huh?
Now we can go to Okinawa without any reser-vations!

You seem down...
We're going on a trip, you know. You were so excited about it.
Yeah...
Are you upset that copies of "Get some on a trip" were spread all over the school...?
I...
I'm upset about that, too!!
...
But that's not it.
What is it, then?
Hey...
Can I ask you something?
Huh?

Haruto...
...do you actually want to go on a trip with me...?
W h a t ?
If...
you're just doing it for me. I don't...
H- Hold on!!
I'm not doing it just for you!!
You know how excited I was to go on this trip!
What do you think I started working for?!
Oh...
Oh, yeah

In that case...
...it's fine.

What's gotten into you? Why would you say that?
Is there a problem?


Asuka, let's go.
An... Yeah!

No...
Not really...
You sure?

I've got practice.
A... Asuka!
Sorry for asking you something so weird.

...

Translation Notes:
Sata Andagi: Local Okinawan cake.
Chinsuko: A traditional Okinawan sweet.

Haruto...
...do you actually want to go on a trip with me...?
...
A trip, huh.
Why did she suddenly ask...?
WHUMP
Did I do something besides the copies...?
Could she have actually mentioned something weird to Asuka?!
...!!
Well, don't worry.
I won't do anything lame like tell on you to Asuka.
Excuse me.
Ah...!
Yes!!

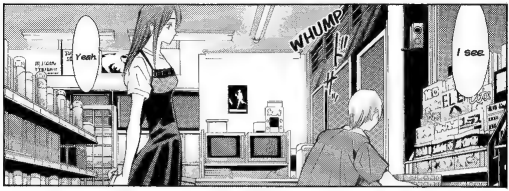
Eba...

Really?
I was just thinking.
Shut up...

...space out like that.
You don't want to...

Most of my time is my own.
Well, my exams are over.

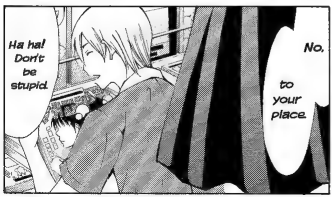
Yeah.
On your way home now?


Yeah.
WHUMP
I see.

So...

Are you going to Miyajima with your siblings?
What about you?

My brother and Rin will be free soon.
We're going to Hiroshima together.
Hiro-shima?


Ha ha! Don't be stupid.
No.
to your place.

It's true...
What?
...
Is this another one of Rin-chan's stupid ideas...?
No. It's not like that.
My brother said he never properly thanked them for looking after me.
A lot's been going on in my family, but things have finally settled down.
We're thinking of going together.
Hmm?

I thought I'd make a proper greeting...

...but I've never thanked them since I left.

I think they just want to go because they like that town...

She's been wanting to see you.

I'm sure Grandma would be happy to hear that.

I see...

Are you going home around then?

Yeah.

We already talked to her.

We're going around August 9th.

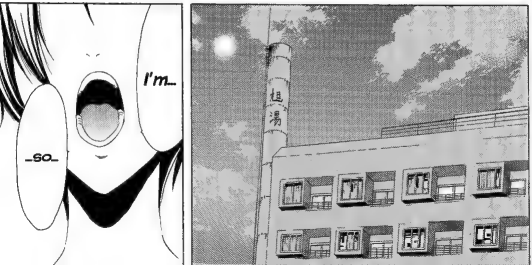
Uh?

August 9th...?

Um...

No...
I'm leaving for a trip with my girlfriend that day.
Ah...
I see.
I'll be staying there without you, then.
Sure.
Take your time.
CREAK
I just thought I'd let you know.
Work hard.
Yeah, take care.

Ah... Okay.
Kirishima, once you're done with that, you can take a break.
She's going there, huh?
When am I going back home...?
ZAKIYAMA
Ground Beef
たばこ
By the way, I've heard Okinawa's purple yam chips are pretty good.
Oh! That sounds good.
Get me some of those, then.
Okay.


I'm...
...so...

BAM
...sorry!!

My mom's always had a bad hip.
Her hernia has gotten worse, so she's going to the hospital for surgery in the beginning of August...

Huh?
...so they asked me to go home over the break to help out...
SHUFF
Grandpa, Dad, and my little brother are having a lot of trouble with just the boys...

Well..!!

BAFF

Is that why you were Feeling down today?

I knew you'd been looking Forward to it.

I just couldn't tell you.

but I'm worried about my Family..

So..

But.. summer will be over before then.

We won't get to go to the beach..

We don't have to go to Okinawa.

That's Fine, then..

Your Family is clearly more important.

We can go on a trip once things settle down. Go see your Family.

PAT
I don't care where we go, as long as we're together.
Let's take our time once your worries are gone.
Okay?
NOD
...
Okay...
Thanks...
You really are nice, Haruto.
No, this is normal.
No one would want to go after hearing that story.

I'll just pick up more shifts.
Don't worry about it.
Huh?
I'm sorry. You won't have anything to do this summer...
Huh?
Well, I do feel like visiting...
You're not going home?
Why do we have to do everything together?
Well... you know... um...
We can come back to Tokyo on the same day, too!
You can leave on the same day as me, then!

I'll be lonely...
...if you're not here when I come back.
...
I wish you'd quit springing things like that on me.
What... Why? Did I say something weird?
No...
It's fine...

A town where you live

#130: MOVING FORWARD

See you later!
Travel safe.
Bring me back what you always get.
Sure, go it.
Tonio buns, right?
Make sure you help out around the house.
Don't just cause trouble for them instead.
Shut up. I know.
If you're so worried about her, why don't you go with her?
Huh?

It's a good chance...
...to introduce yourself to Asuka-chan's parents.
Whs...
You've already planted the seed.
You won't want to go after you've had a kid.
You idiot! No one's planted anything!!
Really? I hear some weird voices coming from your room sometimes.
That's our neighbor Akabuki-san!!
It's not us!!
Oh, I don't mind. You can do whatever you want now that you're dating.
We haven't done anything yet!

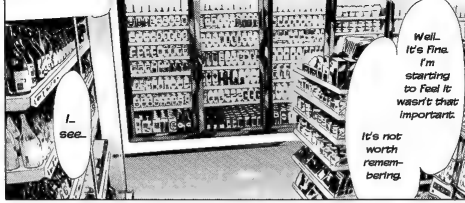
I-I'm going home now!!
Oh... Sorry...
But...
Travel safely, Haruto.
Sure.
Maybe I'll go relax in the hot springs.
RATTLE RATTLE RATTLE
Well, then...
I need to get to work.
Huh...
You don't have the day off?
Of course not.
It's only August 3rd. I'm not a student!

...Huh?
Hey.
Is something happening today?
What?
What do you mean, something?
Well...
I'm not sure.
I feel like something happens on August 3rd.
I don't know.
Maybe you're imagining things.
I could be...
Oh.
Maybe it's recycling day?
Well. I know that...
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP

Destiny
ORIGINAL BREAD
オリジナルブレッド グル
Kirishima, break time.
Ah... Okay.
CLICK
カチャ
I still...
...can't remember.
This feels terrible...
ESSE
ベストカー
完成

Eba!
I'm glad you're here!
Ah... Haruto-kun.
Do you know what day it is today?!
Huh... Today?
It's been bothering me since this morning, but I just can't remember.
I Feel like something happens on August 3rd.
Wh-Who knows...
Not me...
I see...
I Feel like it's a really important day, though.
Well...
Maybe it's because today's my birthday!

Wha?
...
Tha... That's it!!
Today is Eba's birthday!!
I said it's an important day right in front of her, too!!
-Um.
Is something wrong?
N-No... I almost remembered.
but you made me forget about it with your nonsense.
Oh. Sorry.


I... see...
Well... It's fine. I'm starting to feel it wasn't that important.
It's not worth remembering.

Isn't that kind of mean?
Calling my birthday nonsense?
Wouldn't you normally say "Happy Birthday"?
Shut up.
Happy birthday to you!
SHEESH!!

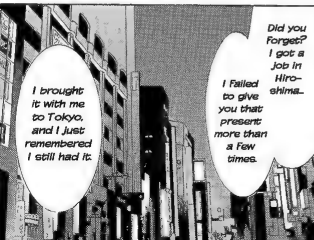
What...
Wh-Where are you going?!
Ah... Actually, good timing.
Go read something while you wait!

Sorry, boss, but could I go home for a second?
Sure. I don't mind. Come back as soon as you can.

Destiny
ZAKIYAMA
ORIGINAL BREAD
オリジナルブレッド
SPRINT
HUFF HUFF
I'm so tired
What were you doing, Haruto-kun?
Here. You can have this.
It's a birthday present.

You went out of your way to buy one...?!
A present...

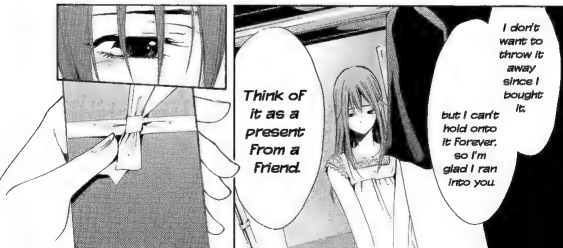
I meant to give it to you two years ago.
No...


I brought it with me to Tokyo, and I just remembered I still had it.
I failed to give you that present more than a few times.
Did you forget? I got a job in Hiro-shima...

What...

It took a while...
...but I finally gave it to you.
But...

Um...
I can't...
Oh, don't worry about it. It doesn't mean anything.


I don't want to throw it away since I bought it.
but I can't hold onto it forever, so I'm glad I ran into you.
Think of it as a present from a friend.

...I will.
Thank you...
Ah... Can I open it?
Uh... Wait until you get home...
Well...
It's just a cheap gift.
...!

It's beautiful...
Wow...
Huh... You're already wearing a necklace?
Ah... It kind of looks like this.
SHIFT
I didn't ask how much it cost.
Who knows?
And...
...it looks way more expensive than mine.
Sounds like you got it from a guy.
Oh...?

Kyousuke-kun gave it to me for my birthday two years ago.
...Yeah.

...

It's okay
Oh
S-Sorry I wouldn't have said that if I had known.

I thought I would wear it...
...all day today.

Huh_?
SHIFT

I can't stand still forever.
But...
I need to move forward, too...
...with you.
...Yeah.
CLACK
...?!
W... With me?!

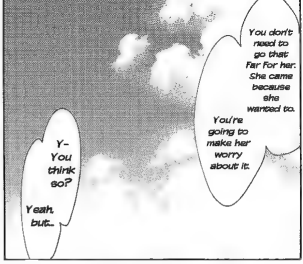
As friends, of course.
...Right?
Yeah...
...
By the way, as your friend, you left the price tag on your necklace.
What?! Seriously?!
Let's see. One, ten, one hundred, one thousand.
Wah!! Don't look!!

ゴォォォ
ROAR
Kiyomi-chan!!
Y-Yes!! Of course!!
Let's go to the hot springs together after that.
Narumi-chan said she'd come once she was finished with business.
What're you talking about? We invited you!
Sorry for tagging along on your trip back home.

I bought coffee and tea. Which do you want?
Thank you. I'll have tea...
Of course you will. I thought you might choose tea!
I want cola.
I want oolong tea.
!!
GLARE
Don't get ahead of yourself, pauper!!
Buy it yourself!!
What's gotten into him...? He's so excited.
I heard he's going to confess to Kiyomi-chan this time.
He called it the first real confession of his life.
Really...
How many lives has he lived...
ROAR

#131 ONE STEP AT A TIME

WE'RE FINALLY BACK IN HIROSHIMA!!
SEEING THAT FOUNTAIN MAKES ME FEEL LIKE I'M HOME.
I'M GOING TO GO BUY BUS TICKETS.
SURE! GET SOME FOR THE LAST STOP.
HEY, WAIT, HARUTO. I'LL GO WITH YOU!
HUH... SURE.
I'LL PAY FOR KIYOMI-CHAN'S TICKET. LET'S SEE.
WHAT...?
THAT'S ABOUT FIVE THOUSAND YEN FOR TWO, RIGHT?


You don't need to go that far for her. She came because she wanted to.
You're going to make her worry about it.
Y-You think so?
Yeah, but...
...In fact...

...
If you're going to go out of your way to do little things for her, why don't you confess to her already?
You already know she'll turn you down.
What?
You think...
she'll say no...?
Huh?

ROLL ROLL
This always happens!!
Hey, hang in there!! Are you already drunk?!

I'm kind of serious...
...this time...
Taka-shi...
...
Th-That was a joke!!
You just called Rin-chan cute the other day.
Just help me!!
You're my friend, Haruto!!
I don't...
see how...
Of course you do!! If I weren't serious, I wouldn't have followed her to college!!
Well...
Yeah...

THANK YOU FOR RIDING HIHOKU TRAFFIC COMPANY'S HIGH SPEED BUS TODAY.
RATTLE RATTLE
THIS BUS WILL PASS THROUGH KIMITA AND KUCHIWA BEFORE ARRIVING AT IT'S FINAL DESTINATION.
I'm so tired.
I wish he'd stop already...
It does seem pretty serious...
...

Can I sit next to you?

Sure.

Is he okay? Yura-kun...

HURK

H-h-h-i!

Didn't I tell you not to eat chocolate?!

Yeah, he's always like this. Don't worry about it.

I can't fail this time! Ask her what she thinks of me!!

It's not that easy...

I can't just ask her out of the blue...

By the way, that was unfortunate.

Huh...?

Your trip with Asuka-chan.

I saw a copy of your notes, too.

?!

Th-That was Takashi...

Oh, whoops. I can't say anything that'll make him look bad

...?

_Um.

Anyway, what about you...

Huh_ What do you mean?

Well, you know...

Do you want to date anyone?

SIGN: ALLIGATOR AND VEGETABLES
SIGN: MANGAKU TEA HOUSE

Huh?
No, around here, they call sharks alligators. They're known for their shark dishes.
Hey, what's that alligator dish? Is it really made of alligator?
まんさく茶屋
ワニ料理 山菜

What...

I mean, no!!

Shark actually keeps quite a while, so it used to be one of the few raw fish you could eat up in the mountains.

Oh! It came up in a famous cooking manga the other...

There's a good guy nearby.

RATTLE

RATTLE

Come on...

Think about it.

Um... He cares for his friends a lot, and he's a funny guy with a Hiroshima accent...

WHEEZE

WHEEEZE

He acts superficial, but he's actually so devoted that he followed the girl he likes all the way to Tokyo...

What?!

Are you hitting on me?

...Hey.

Just so you know...
...I'm not anyone's mistress or second girlfriend!
And Asuka-chan's my friend...
Y-You idiot!! I'm not talking about myself!!
I'm talking about Takaishi!
What... Yura-kun?
He says...
...he really likes you...
Huh?

He asked me to ask you...
...how you feel about him.
How... I feel...
...But?
I don't... dislike him.
But...
You know?
Dating him would be... Well...
He's really... nice...
and I think he's a good friend. but...
I don't think he'd cheat on you.
Th... That's not the problem... Um...

You still can't...
...let go of Kazuma...?
WHOOSH
What?!
You know, he came to me the day before his surgery.
"Look after Asakura for me," he said.
....

He said he was worried about you, his childhood friend...
I thought it was another one of his jokes, but he seemed pretty serious.
Well...
Whether or not you'll date anyone aside...
...
What an idiot...
Worrying about other people when he might die the next day...
...
If you keep standing still and crying like that,
he won't be able to move on.
So... well...
I won't tell you to forget about him, but...

...

Hey, stop!!

Puke quietly! You're so gross!!

Hurk!! Barf!!

SMILE

Move Forward.

Even if it's just one step.

カツ
STEP
SHUFF
Are you okay...?
ボヤー
BLUR
Huh?

...
You're so nice, Rin-chan.
STIFF
Hey!! What does that mean?!
Ah! Kiyomi-chan...
B a r F !!
Who's Rin?!
What girl are you mistaking me for?!
...with you.
I need to move forward, too...
...
I'm...
...moving forward, right...?
WHOOSH

At home.
tomorrow.
Okay, send.
Bluetooth
Tel
本文
旅行の予定がなくなったんでやっぱり帰省することにした。
明日はオレも実家にいるとお着
Because we canceled our trip, I decided to go home, too. I think I'll be at home tomorrow.
CLICK
CLICK
CLAP
All that's left now is...
She'll be surprised to suddenly find me there.
I should let Eba know...

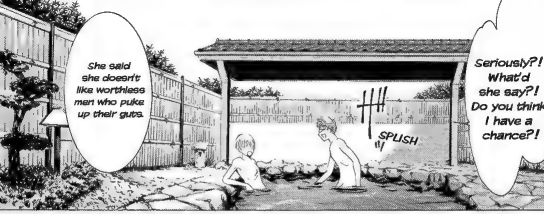
They're the problem.
I wonder what they'd think if I told them Eba was coming to my place...
Well, even if Takashi wouldn't mind...
...and when it comes to Asakura...
...Akari stopped talking about Eba since she dumped me...
I hate you after all!!
I hate you!!
Maybe I shouldn't tell them...
They'll definitely get in a fight...
VROOOM
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATRONAGE. THIS IS OUR LAST STOP.

A town where you live
#132: ABOUT YUZUKI

I'm so glad I came.
The hot springs here feel so good.
Don't they?
I can't believe you wanted to come here straight off the bus.
You must really like this place, Kiyomi-chan.

I've been looking forward to this for so long. You could even say I came here just for this!
Just how much do you like hot springs?
Thanks for letting me stay with you.
Are you sure it's okay?
It's fine. Stay as long as you like.
My dad's been looking forward to it, too, since I told him I was bringing home a friend from Tokyo.
Really?
That's good, then.
I wonder what your father's like.
I can't imagine.
Huh? He's normal.
Just a Hiroshima-dialect-speaking Russian you could find anywhere.
PONK
What?

Ha ha ha!
No way! Really?!
Th-They seem to be having fun.
I wonder what the girls are talking about?
Who knows?
Why don't you go spy on them like you used to?
What?!
Don't be ridiculous!!
I'd never do that to Kiyomi-chan!!
Serious, huh...
Coming from you, that sounds awfully superficial.
I told you I'm serious about her!!
Anyway...
Did you ask her what she thinks of me?
Huh?
Oh, yeah..


She said she doesn't like worthless men who puke up their guts.
SPLISH
Seriously?! What'd she say?! Do you think I have a chance?!

...

It seemed like it might not actually be that bad.
That was a joke!
Whatt?
Reallyy?
...
Yeah, really.
It might work out if you try.

No way...
I can't help it.
I see.
Well, that's fine.
This always happens...
ズドーン
DOOM

Whoa!!
SPLASH
THE
WORLD
Yaha!!
I've made up my mind!! I'm going to go out with Kiyomi-chan!!
I'll get some before you and beat you up the steps to adulthood!!
What are you going to do, Kiyomi-chan? That's a pretty bold statement.
He's awful.
That guy's an idiot. They can hear everything he's saying

VOOOM
Taking a bath makes you feel tired all at once.
You were puking the whole time.
No wonder you're tired.
You. Don't remind me of that!!
CAW CAW
CAW CAW CAW

I know, Kiyomi-chan! Do you want me to massage your shoulders?!
Sitting all day must've made them stiff!
You have to be kidding me. Gross.
Huh..

Wh- Why?!
What did I do?!
THUD
No!! Stay away From me! You're gross!!
THUD

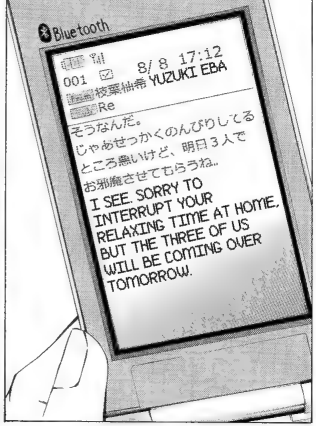
ブルルル
BZZZ
ブルルル
BZZZ

Could you hear him in the baths?
I don't know what you're talking about.
あ"
AH-

Ah.

枝葉柚
YUZUKI E

Asuka-chan!?
Huh!?
Well...


Bluetooth
8/ 8 17:12
001
枝葉仙希 YUZUKI EBA
Re
そうなんだ。
じゃめせっかくのんびりしてる
ところ悪いけど、明日3人で
お邪魔させてもらうね。
I SEE. SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR RELAXING TIME AT HOME. BUT THE THREE OF US WILL BE COMING OVER TOMORROW.

Um...
...

Can I...
STOMP
ask you something?
Huh? What's gotten into you...
STOMP

You two are so close.
Why don't you respond?
I-It's not like that...

Eba...
What do you think of her?
ヴォーン
What?
We're friends.
What about it?

You're the one it happened to.
It has nothing to do with me.
What?
B-But... Well... A lot happened.
That's fine, then...
I see...
STOMP
STOMP
Why are you bringing that up now?
Did something happen?
Well... I guess.
um...
Wha... You...
Yuzuki-chan's coming?!
I want to see her!!
What?!
She's coming over to my place tomorrow with her siblings...

...Ah.

What?

Eba-
san's
coming?

W-
Well,
she's not
coming
to hang
out with
us...

Huh?
Kiyomi-chan, do you know her, too?
Yes. I've met her a few times.
So...
She used to live at my place, so she wanted to stop by...
Hey... What are you thinking...
I see...
She's coming, too...
It's been a while...
There's a lot I'd like to talk about.
Huh?

Nanami-chan said she'd be back tomorrow.

The whole Hiroshima gang will be back together again!

You're right! We'd better throw a party with Haruto's food!!

Huh...

They're not as bothered by Eba as I thought...

I didn't need to worry so much.

Huh?
Now that that's settled, I'm going to the river!
I'll spear a mountain of sweet-fish and salmon!!
Spear them? Yura-kun can do that?
Yeah. It's the only thing I'm good at.
Really?
Huh..
What?
That's amazing!
Thank you. I look forward to it.
Ah! Maybe I'll put in some extra effort for you, Kiyomi-chan!!
I grew up in the city, so I admire people who can do that sort of thing!!
You'd better catch a bunch of fish.
Rin-chan and her siblings are coming, too.
You're kidding! Rin-chan's coming?!

Ah...
That girl again...?
N-No!! Rin-chan is...
What are you saying, Akari?!
A girl Takashi liked.
I see. You really are superficial, Yura-kun.
Bluetooth
みんなも早く故郷に会いたいってよ！
トマトサラダ作って待ってるから楽しみにしてろよ。
Looks like this summer...
Everyone wants to see you soon, too! I'll make a tomato salad for you. Look forward to it.
...is going to be another rowdy one.
....
It's not like that!!
I hate you!!
CLICK CLICK

Sorry, what? I couldn't hear you.
Is that your boyfriend, Asuka? Let me talk to him!
I'm hungry. What's dinner?
SHEESH!! CAN'T YOU SHUT UP FOR A LITTLE BIT?!
So...
Eba's coming to my place today to say hi.
I thought I should let you know.
Huh...
Yuzuki-chan?
Ah...
But Rin-chan and her brother are coming, too!!
You don't need to worry about...
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
...!

Is there some reason Rin-chan needs to come?
Yuzuki-chan and her brother could've gone by themselves.
...What?
ANYWAY, DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE GETTING TOO CLOSE?
YOU WENT TO THE AMUSEMENT PARK TOGETHER!
YOU'RE NOT CHEATING ON ME, ARE YOU?!
Really? Really and truly?
I'm trusting you, okay?!
This is idiotic... Of course I'm not.
Her brother just said the three of them should go.

Say hi to everyone for me!
Well... In any case, I'll call you later.
SHUT UP!! GO AWAY!!
ASUKA, ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO DATE THAT GUY?! GIVE ME THE PHONE!!
IS HE CHEATING ON YOU?! LAME!!
So...
Yeah.
Got it.
Y... Yeah.
sure...
She doesn't seemed bothered about Eba any more...
Huh.
CLACK
...thinking too much lately...
RING
I think I've been...

君のいる町

#133: BETTER THAN MY EX

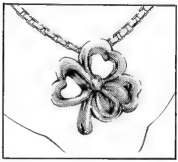
CLATTER
CLATTER
Wow, this is extravagant. You really went all out, Haruto.
Huh?
This much is normal.
Don't you think Eba and the others are a little late?
If they don't hurry up, the food's going to get cold.
I just got a text from Nanami-chan. She met Yuzuki-chan at the station, so they're shopping for gifts.
Good evening!
Ah...
Speak of the devil. Maybe the star you've been awaiting has finally arrived.
I'm not waiting for her.

It's been so long, Yuzuki-chan!
How've you been!?
ガラ
RATTLE
Ah...
Akari-chan!
Huh?

Yuzuki, chan!?
Yeah.
Is something wrong?
Long time, no see, Akari-san!
..Huh?
Um..
Who are you..?
What are you talking about? I'm her sister Rin.
What?!
What are you shouting about? It's so loud.
You're kidding!! You're so pretty now!! Amazing!!
Right? I was surprised, too.
I.. I'm not that pretty..

Hey...
You're late.
Ah...
We were shopping.

With Kanzaki, right?
Yeah, we ended up on the same bus.



Sorry we brought so many people, Haruto-kun.
It's fine. Our place is needlessly huge, anyway.

I'm really sorry to be imposing on you like this.

We shouldn't talk out here

Come on in. Dinner's ready.

Um... Is Takashi-san not here today?

What's wrong, Rin-chan? Come in.

Usually he comes running...

FIDGET

FIDGET

He wants to brag to Asakura about catching his food himself.

He went fishing in the river.

Fine.

Things have been going well between them since they came here.

Don't amuse yourself by getting in their way.

A girl From our college.

What... Who's Asakura?

I wouldn't do...
...anything like that.
CHATTER
CHATTER
Grandma, we're here!
Do you remember me?!
Yes, yes. That's right.
These eggs are so good! What's this green stuff with the tomatoes?
It's Japanese beet.
Maybe I'll try that!

Yeah. You seem nicer than before.
What, I never?
Kiyomi-san, you've changed a little bit.
You think so?
You...
I-I don't like those kinds of guys!!
I-Is it true?!
What's he like?! The guy you like!
Hey!
Maybe it's because she's in love.
But I don't dislike them either.
Ah..!

That's not true.

Does it seem that way?

GRIND GRIND

Takashi-san, you're being cold to me.

I'm so lonely.

TWITCH

CHATTER CHATTER

I hate people like that!!

RATTLE

Wha...

What's wrong, Kiyomi-san!?

...Seems like...

...since I felt like this...
It's been a long time...
Leave them around there some-where.
Thanks for the food. I brought some plates.
I can't cook fast enough.
What?!
Y-Yeah. I had some. It was really good!!
Tell me how it tasted, then.
By the way, did you have the tomato salad? I made it for you.
Just how much are they going to eat?
You liar.
Let's see...
It had the mature flavor of the winds of Italy, the plains of France, and a western...
Fruity flavor
MUNCH MUNCH

Anyway, I was so surprised...
...to hear that Takeshi-kun and Kiyomi-san might start dating!!
CLATTER
Yeah.
It's not for sure yet though.
Someone's getting in their way for fun...
Ah...
I'll tell her to stop...
...
But...
It would be nice if it worked out for those two...
Should you really be worrying about others?
What about yourself?
What do you mean?

Why don't you find yourself a boyfriend already?
Well... You know...
Huh?
I'm just worried about you as your ex.
Didn't you decide to move forward?
That again?
Stop looking down on me just because you have a girlfriend.
H-Hey!
But...
I did...

I'll have...

...to meet someone better than my ex.

_What?!

O-Oh...!

You're talking about Kazama!!

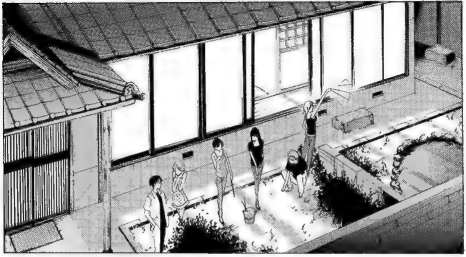
He certainly was a good boyFriend!!

_Ah

Y-Yeah.
...
What's wrong, Kiyomi-chan!?
Why are you mad?
STOMP
STOMP
I'm not mad!!
Kiri-shima-kun, is the food ready yet?!
Oh!!
SHOVE
You're grilling fish!!
This is it!! I've been working hard since this morning so you could eat this!!
I caught this fish just for you!!
What...
R-Really?
Ah... Sorry. I'll bring it out now.
If you went through all that trouble...
...I guess I could eat it...

Take-shi-san.
I want some fish, too...
What?
Really?
SNAP
Grand-ma!! This is for you!!
PANT— PANT
Why thank you
SLAP
I hate you!!
Urgh!!

#134: CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION

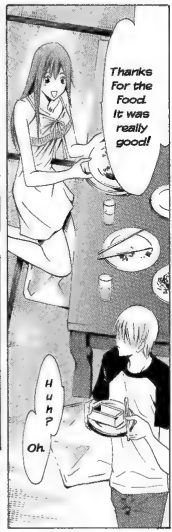


He's like a little kid.
Takeshi-san only bought these kinds of firecrackers.

CHATTER
CHATTER

I'm sorry, I don't understand what's interesting about that at all.
Look, Kiyomi-chan, a snake firecracker!!
It looks like dog poop!!
HISS

Translation Notes
goya champuru is an Okinawan stir fry made with bitter melon.



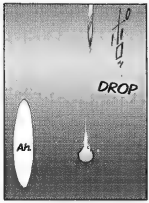
What are you two doing?
You can clean later. Light fireworks with us.
Ah... Okay.

Let's go, Haruto-kun!
DASH!!
O... Okay.

Sparklers are beautiful, aren't they?
I love these.
Huh, really?

パチ
CRACKLE
パチ
CRACKLE
パチ

...
Well, compared to your beauty, they're nothing special.


DROP
Ah.

Wha...!!
I mean all of them seriously!!
I'm impressed that you can come up with so many weak lines...
I'm sick of them.

Don't worry!
I'll relight it for you...
...with the flames of my heart known as passion!

...
I don't like this moment though...
It feels so sad...

Ah..
Sorry. I'll stop...
...

...Huh?
No problem.

No...
Thank you.

You're right.
hu hu
Click
Things seem to be going well between those two.

I don't like that kind of mood.
TOSS
Rin-chan, what are you doing?

ニェウシ
HISS

Ah!
BANG
?!
Huh..
What?!
WHI-R.R.R
Flames of passion at maximum Fire!!
Whoa!!
..Ah.
wait.
I..
STEP
...
You shouldn't do that, Kim-chan..
SNRK
Stay away from me!!
SLAP

Huh?
That's odd...
CLICK
CLICK
Hanabi, let's light this! We'll finish with a five story tower!!
Hang it up somewhere.
What's wrong, Eba? It won't light?
Yeah... The tip will burn, but that's it...
Not that!! The fireworks!!
-?
No, you're...
holding it the wrong way.
Huh...?

HISSS
You haven't changed, have you?
It lit up!! Thanks, Haruto-kun!
Huh..?
Oh, by the way..
...wasn't it a stir fry of spring cabbage?
It's the first dish you made for me.
Oh.
No, that's the dish you made ridiculous heaps of.
Hey! Why do you have to put it like that?!

Naruto-kun, I want to catch some fireflies. Do you have a net?

We can't get any time to talk.

Hanabi can't climb trees!

Hanabi, I hung the fire-works!!

Light it!!

Hey, aren't you hot?

Let's go buy ice cream.

Ah... I'll go with you.

There's a magazine I want to buy.

Let's all go for a walk, then.

I still have to clean. You go on ahead.

You're such a party pooper.

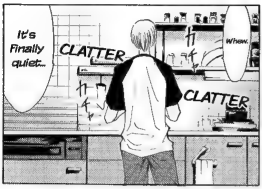
Yuzuki-chan, you're coming, right?

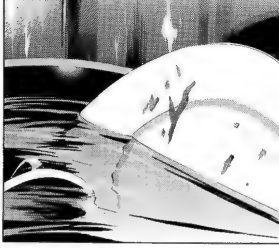
Ah...

Yeah!

See you later, Haruto!

Go home already...


It's finally quiet...
CLATTER
CLATTER
Whew



Huh?
Hey, Haruto!!

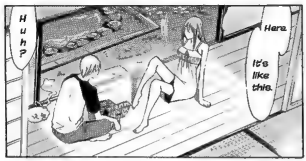
No!
One of Yuzuki-chan's nails is broken! Take care of it for her.
Also, get my wallet.
...

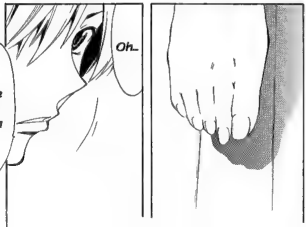
What's up? Did you forget your wallet?

Ah! I did!!

What?

Let me see.
Is it pretty deep?


Here.
It's like this.
Huh?

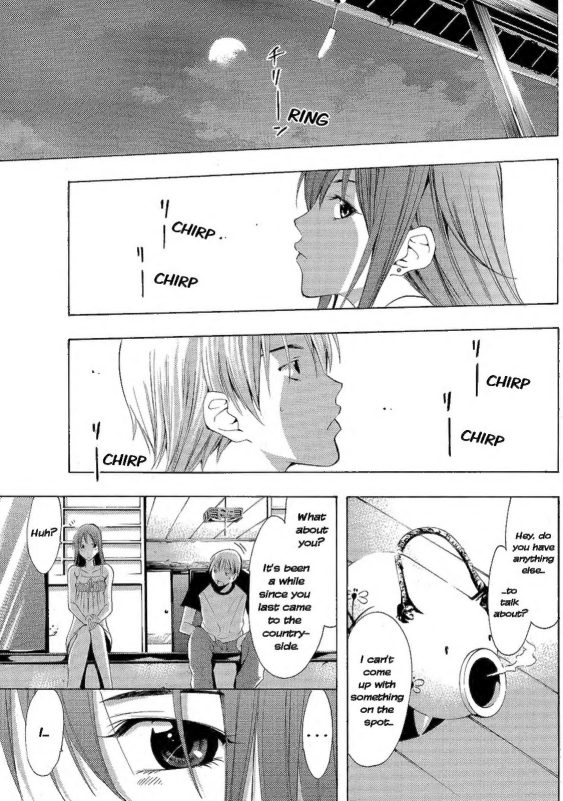

Oh..
They're not broken at all.

You should be more careful.
You're always injuring yourself.
THUMP
THUMP

Hee hee...
Were you...
lying?
...Yeah.
Why? You should've just said so if you didn't want to go.
What?
It's not like that...

Now...
...we can continue our conversation, right?
...What?
You said so earlier. We can't find time to talk.
Well... I did, but...
The first dish I made for her...
...isn't worth a formal conversation...

Wasn't it a lunch?
One with tomatoes and lightly sweetened eggs.
...Huh?
I think I remember you making it in the kitchen when I woke up.
You were making one for me, too.
Yaah... Now that you remind me...
...that might have been it.
Good.
That's a relief.
Yeah...
I guess...


チリーン
RING
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
Huh?
What about you?
It's been a while since you last came to the country-side.
I...
...
Hey, do you have anything else...
...to talk about?
I can't come up with something on the spot...

CONTINUED IN VOLUME 15

Kouji Seo
Shonen Magazine Comics
A town where you live
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